

CONTENTS

Executive Summary.....	i
Section 1. Introduction.....	1
Early Years.....	2
Post World War II.....	3
California's Marine Heritage.....	4
Marine Life of California	6
Factors Affecting Marine Wildlife Populations.....	7
The Marine Life Management Act.....	8
Recent Developments.....	9
Marine Protected Areas Generally.....	11
MLPA Initiative Process	12
Roles in the Marine Life Protection Act Initiative.....	13
Organizational Partners, Committees, and Teams.....	13
Master Plan Framework	15
Section 2. Process for Designing Alternative Marine Protected Area Network Proposals	18
The Blue Ribbon Task Force MPA Design Process	19
Task 1: Regional MPA Planning	26
Activity 1.1: Convene regional process.....	26
Activity 1.2: Develop additional advice	26
Activity 1.3: Prepare regional profile	27
Activity 1.4: Develop regional ecological and socioeconomic goals, objectives and design considerations.....	27
Activity 1.5: Determine key locations for MPAs to meet the MLPA goals within the region	27
Task 2: Assemble Regional Alternative MPA Packages	28
Activity 2.1: Recommend potential changes to existing MPAs.....	28
Activity 2.2: Assemble alternative MPA packages for the region.....	28
Task 3: Evaluate Alternative MPA Package Proposals	28
Activity 3.1: Evaluate alternative MPA proposals	28
Activity 3.2: Identify monitoring and evaluation indicators.....	29
Activity 3.3: Forward alternative package proposals to the Department	29
Activity 3.4: Submit proposals to Commission.....	29
Task 4: Commission Consideration and Action	30
Activity 4.1: Commission review of proposals.....	30
Activity 4.2: Formal regulatory process.....	30
Activity 4.3: Public testimony.....	30
Activity 4.4: Commission acts on alternative regional MPA proposals.....	30
Section 3. Considerations in the Design of MPAs	31
Goals of the Marine Life Protection Program.....	31
MPA Networks	33
Science Advisory Team Guidance on MPA Network Design	34
Consideration of Habitats in the Design of MPAs.....	40
Species Likely to Benefit from MPAs	45
Biogeographical Regions	46
Types of MPAs	48
State Marine Reserve	49
State Marine Park	50
State Marine Conservation Area.....	50
State Marine Recreational Management Area.....	51
Combined use of marine reserves, marine parks and marine conservation areas	51
Levels of protection for MPA classification	51
Setting Goals and Objectives for MPAs.....	56
Enforcement and Public Awareness Considerations in Setting Boundaries	59
Information Supporting the Design of MPAs.....	60
Other Programs and Activities Other Than Fishing	61
Section 4. Management.....	64

Structure of regional MPA management plans65
Description of major elements.....	.66
Section 5. Enforcement.....	70
Existing Enforcement Assets	70
MPA Enforcement Considerations.....	72
Enforcement Plan Objectives.....	73
Section 6. Monitoring and Adaptive Management of MPAs.....	75
Developing a Monitoring and Evaluation Program for MPAs and Network Components.....	76
Section 7. Funding.....	83
MLPA funding history	83
Blue Ribbon Task Force input on funding.....	84
Expected activities required to implement the MLPA	85
Possible partners in funding or performing activities required to implement the MLPA	86
Expected duration and levels of expenditures	87
Structures for receipt and allocation of funds.....	88
Section 8. Regional MPA Management Plans.....	89
8.1: North Coast Region (California/Oregon border to Point Arena)	89
Planned Completion 2011	
8.2: North-Central Coast Region (Point Arena to Pigeon Point).....	89
Planned Completion 2009	
8.3: San Francisco Bay Region (Waters within San Francisco Bay)	89
Planned Completion 2010	
8.4: Central Coast Region (Pigeon Point to Point Conception)	89
8.4.1 Introduction	89
Description of region	89
Regional design and implementation considerations	91
Regional goals, and objectives	93
Description of individual MPA boundaries (including maps), regulations, and objectives	94
8.4.2. General Activities and Locations	134
Scientific Monitoring and Research plan	134
Outreach, Interpretation and Education plan.....	161
Enforcement plan.....	161
Contingencies and Emergency Planning	163
8.4.3. Operations	163
Equipment and Facilities	163
Staffing.....	163
Collaborations and Potential Partnerships	163
8.4.4. Costs and Funding.....	163
Estimated costs	163
Potential funding sources	163
8.4.5. Timelines and Milestones	164
Timeline and Criteria for Implementation	164
Timeline for Evaluation and Review of Effectiveness.....	164
8.5: South Coast Region (Point Conception to U.S./Mexico Border)	164
Planned Completion 2008	
Literature Cited	165

List of Figures

Figure 1. Players in the Marine Life Protection Act Initiative	13
Figure 2. Process for MPA planning in study regions	20
Figure 3. Flowchart of the review process to determine if individual, regional, and MLPA goals are being met by the various types of MPAs and other management measures.....	32
Figure 4. An example of sea surface temperature in the California coastal waters, May 30, 2000.....	43
Figure 5. Flowchart of process to establish and conduct a monitoring program.....	78
Figure 6. Año Nuevo State Marine Reserve and Greyhound Rock State Marine Conservation Area.....	97

Figure 7. Elkhorn Slough State Marine Reserve, Elkhorn Slough State Marine Park, and Morro Cojo Lagoon State Marine Reserve	100
Figure 8. Soquel Canyon State Marine Conservation Area and Portuguese Ledge State Marine Conservation Area	103
Figure 9. Ed Ricketts State Marine Conservation Area, Hopkins State Marine Reserve, and Pacific Grove State Marine Conservation Area	106
Figure 10. Carmel Pinnacles State Marine Conservation Area, Carmel Bay State Marine Conservation Area, Point Lobos State Marine Reserve, and Point Lobos State Marine Conservation Area	110
Figure 11. Pt. Sur State Marine Reserve and Pt. Sur State Marine Conservation Area.....	116
Figure 12. Big Creek State Marine Reserve and Big Creek State Marine Conservation Area	119
Figure 13. Piedras Blancas State Marine Reserve and Piedras Blancas State Marine Conservation Area.....	123
Figure 14. Cambria State Marine Reserve	126
Figure 15. Morro Bay East State Marine Reserve and Morro Bay State Marine Recreational Management Area with no-take portion of the SMRMA indicated	128
Figure 16. Pt. Buchon State Marine Reserve and Pt. Buchon State Marine Conservation Area including the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant Safety Zone	131
Figure 17. Vandenberg State Marine Reserve.....	134
Figure 18. Description of Structural Tiers.....	135

List of Tables

Table 1: Process for MPA planning in study regions.....	21
Table 2: Comparison of potential marine protected area goals	59
Table 3. Central coast enforcement personnel with marine emphasis (2005).....	71
Table 4. Natural Resource Enforcement Assets in California	72
Table 5. Central coast MPA monitoring activities based upon MLPA Goals and individual MPA objectives	137
Table 6. Enforcement considerations for central coast region MPAs	161

Appendices (a separate document)

- A. The Marine Life Protection Act
- B. The Marine Managed Areas Improvement Act
- C. Implementation of the Marine Life Protection Act: 1999-2004
- D. Strategy for Stakeholder and Interested Public Participation
- E. Social Science Tools and Methods
- F. Outline of Information Required for Proposals for Alternative Networks of Marine Protected Areas
- G. Master List of Species Likely to Benefit from Marine Protected Areas
- H. Summary of Recent and Ongoing Processes Related to the Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
- I. List of Existing State Marine Protected Areas prior to MLPA Implementation (January 2005)
- J. Glossary and Defined Terms
- K. Marine Life Protection Act Initiative Lessons Learned Report from the Central Coast Regional Process
- L. Marine Life Protection Act Initiative Estimated Long-Term Costs to Implement the California Marine Life Protection Act
- M. Marine Life Protection Act Initiative Consultant's Adaptive Management and Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
- N. Marine Life Protection Act Initiative Task Force Memo and Consultants' Report on Options for Funding the Marine Life Protection Act